



P.B.5818 - Patentlaan 2  
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)  
P (070) 3 40 20 40  
TX 31651 epo nl  
FAX (070) 3 40 30 16

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recherche

Marsh, Roy David  
Hoffmann Eitle,  
Patent- und Rechtsanwälte,  
Arabellastrasse 4  
81925 München  
ALLEMAGNE



Zeichen/Ref./Réf. 74 425 a/fi	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°./Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 98110977.0-1265-
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire United States Surgical Corporation	

## COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

- Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

abstract       title

- The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

7

## REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	US 4 700 703 A (RESNIK) 20 October 1987 * column 4, line 59 - column 5, line 20; figures 1,3,4 *	13-15	A61B17/115 A61B17/08
A	GB 935 490 A (RESEARCH INSTITUTE) * page 3, column 1, paragraph 2; figures 11-13,25 *	1	
A	US 5 234 447 A (KASTER) 10 August 1993 * figures 1,5,14-18 *	1	
A	EP 0 384 647 A (ABIOMED) 29 August 1990		
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TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)			
A61B			
<p>1</p> <p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		25 September 1998	Barton, S
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons  & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 98 11 0977

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

25-09-1998

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